

## Message Text

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63

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00

DRC-01 /165 W

----- 041093

R 051356Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5445

INFO AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 0731

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BC, RH, SF

SUBJ: OPPENHEIMER'S VIEWS ON SOUTHERN RHODESIA

REF: GABORONE 0721

1. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION WITH AMB 04JUN, HARRY OPPENHEIMER, CHAIRMAN, ANGLO AMERICAN, WAS STRONGLY CRITICAL OF IAN SMITH'S HANDLING OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA PROBLEM. OPPENHEIMER SAID "SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA WAS BAD BUT IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA IT WAS EVEN WORSE". OPPENHEIMER CHARACTERIZED SMITH AS "SILLY" AND SAID HE WAS AN EMBARRASSMENT TO SOUTH AFRICA.

2. THE AMB COMMENTED THAT SOUTH AFRICA WAS IN POSITION EXERCISE SOME LEVERAGE, AND THAT ESCALATION OF THE CONFLICT IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA WOULD BE ESPECIALLY TROUBLESOME FOR BOTSWANA AND TEND HAVE DESTABILIZING EFFECT IN ENTIRE SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGION. OPPENHEIMER AGREED BUT THOUGHT IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY DIFFICULT FOR VORSTER GOVT TO TAKE ACTION INDUCE SMITH ADOPT MORE FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE.

BOLEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 JUN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Line Count:** 60  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** GABORONE 0721  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27 AUG 2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OPPENHEIMER'S VIEWS ON SOUTHERN RHODESIA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, BC, RH, SF, (OPPENHEIMER, HARRY), (SMITH, IAN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005